control duties in the passenger area to augment the efforts of the State Governments. RPF has also been empowered to deal with the minor offences affecting the train operations such as alarm chain pulling, roof travel, touting, ticketless travel, unauthorized entry into coaches earmarked for ladies etc. (except Sabotage related offences under Sections 150 to 152) with the amendment to the Railways Act, 1989 *w.e.f.* July 2004. The objective was to ensure that the State Police (Government Railway Police) get more man power and time to handle heinous offences such as Murder, Dacoity, Robbery, Rape etc. including Sabotage and Train Wrecking, under the provisions of Indian Penal Code, the Railways Act and other laws of the land. Close liaison with State authorities has been maintained and concerned State authorities have been requested to sensitize the Government Railway Police personnel particularly about crime against women. State level co-ordination committees have been constituted in most of the States at the initiative of the Railway Board. These Committees comprise of Additional Director General of Police (Railways), all the Chief Security Commissioners/ RPF, concerned heads of the Intelligence and Crime Branches of the State and they meet periodically.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Declaration of trains as superfast

522. SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) how many trains have been declared superfast during last one year so far, after placement of last budget; and

(b) what would be the increase of passenger fare for such declaration?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) A total number of 140 trains have been declared superfast so far after the placement of last Rail Budget 2006-07.

(b) There is no increase in basic fare, except surcharge ranging from Rs. 10 to Rs. 50 per passenger, depending on the class of travel, leviable for travel by such trains.